



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Justice Assistance

Office of the Director

Washington, D.C. 20531

SEP 17 1986

Dave Frohnmayer, Esquire
Attorney General
State Department of Justice
100 Justice Building
Salem, Oregon 97310

RECEIVED
SEP 22 1986

ATTORNEY GENERAL
SALEM, OREGON

Dear Mr. Frohnmayer:

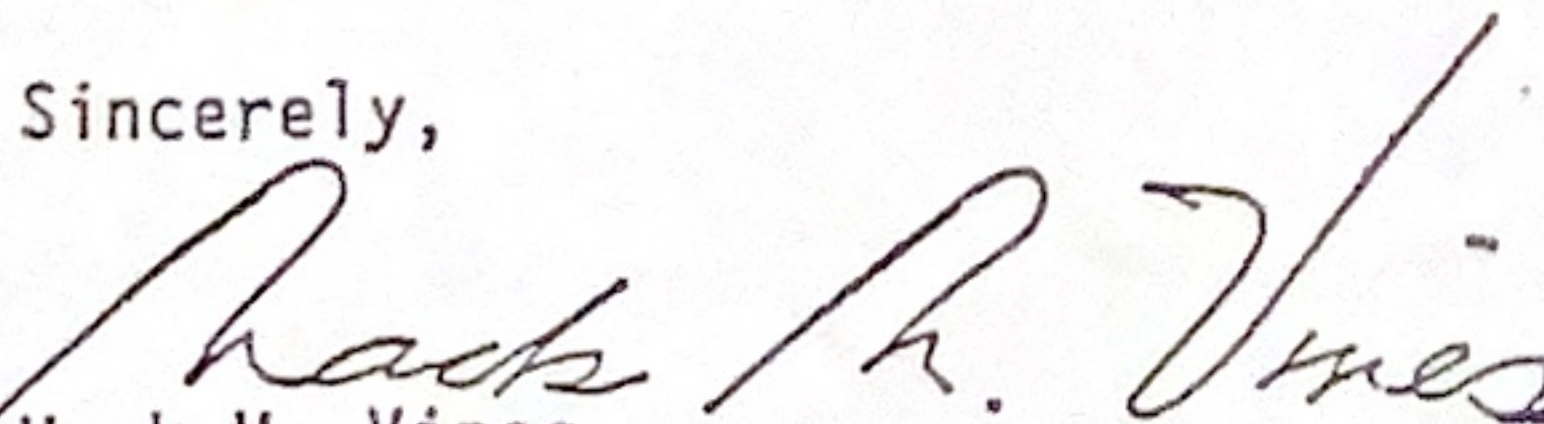
As you are aware, drug use and abuse is a major problem in this country; a problem which is being attacked by this Administration at all levels. Besides the social problems drug abuse creates in our families, workplaces and schools, the criminal justice system is burdened with cases associated with drug trafficking, crimes committed to obtain drugs or money to buy drugs and crimes committed under the influence of drugs. For example, National Institute of Justice research shows that over half of those arrested in two major cities over a two year period had used drugs just prior to arrest.

Many states are using Justice Assistance Block Grant funds to combat drug problems within their state. Thirteen states have allocated approximately \$2.3 million for drug enforcement and prosecution program with FY 1985 funds, thirteen states are implementing TASC programs for drug offenders and a few states are using Block Grant funds for prevention programs. Although these efforts will assist in the war on drugs, more could be done.

Because drug abuse is so widespread and narcotics trafficking crosses state lines and our national borders, many believe that the drug problem should be addressed by the Federal government. However, the magnitude of the problem requires the cooperative efforts of Federal, state and local governments and the public to pass tougher laws, improve enforcement and prosecution efforts, and to implement drug prevention and treatment programs.

Priorities for the Block Grant Program are established within each state and target major problems facing the state. In many states funding for drug programs has not been a priority. Although there is no requirement that drug programs be included in your priorities, I urge you to clearly define the drug problem in your state, assess the level of state and local resources available to address the problem and consider using unallocated and future awards of Block Grant funds to initiate new programs or to enhance current Drug Abuse related efforts.

Sincerely,


Mack M. Vines
Director

Assistance (BJA) and sent out to most of you last year. If you have not received copies, we have a limited number available should you need them.

3. Amount of FY 1986 Funds Available

Oregon has qualified to receive \$618,000 in FY 1986 funds. This money will be further allocated to state and local agencies based on state and local criminal justice system expenditures. The ratio for FY 1986 indicates approximately 60 percent (59.2% or \$365,856) will be available for the local jurisdictions and 40 percent (40.8% or \$252,144) for state programs. This ratio is based on FY 1979 expenditure figures (the most current available to the Bureau).

Another item of importance is the matching funds requirement. Federal funds may pay up to 50 percent of the cost of a program and the matching funds provided by the subgrantee, or the jurisdictions, must be in cash (see Section 33.21, page 22991).

4. Criteria for Project Selection

Compliance with federal eligibility guidelines obviously is a prerequisite to consideration of each grant application. Moreover, in order to ensure the strongest possible state application, the strength of each grant application will be carefully weighed against the federal guidelines. The primary criteria that will be applied in evaluating the local government applications will be compliance with the federal guidelines and the likelihood that the program will truly advance the basic purpose of the Block Grant Program.

Additional factors to be considered by the department's Advisory Committee reviewing the applications is contained in the enclosed discussion of the guidelines discussed at the September 3, 1985 meeting of the committee.

5. Project Grant Application Forms

We have enclosed copies of the project application form which is to be submitted to the respective Regional Council of Governments or directly to the Crime Analysis Center (state agencies and/or the local agencies where a Regional Council of Government is not operational).

To facilitate a balanced and fair review of all grant applications, we are requiring that each application contain a brief but clearly written program description. This description should be provided beginning on Page 5 and additional page(s) and should contain a statement of the problem or problems to which the project is a necessary response. Also, there should be adequate description of the proposed project's purposes, goals or objectives, major activities or proposed services, as well as the indicators to be used to assess project performance. This project description, together with the budget, will provide a basis for the reviewers' understanding of why the project is being proposed and what it attempts to do. We can't emphasize enough the importance of careful preparation of these applications.

6. Time Schedule

Please find attached, the list of activities and schedule for this year's planning and grant preparation/selection process. We will "start the clock" on September 22, 1986, making this Week Number 1 in our planning/application cycle.

Dr. Jim Heuser of the Crime Analysis Center will be in contact with you, and if you have questions, please call him at 378-4229. We hope you decide to participate in this program effort and look forward to a productive and cooperative working relationship.

Yours very truly,

DAVE FROHNMAYER
Attorney General

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Enclosures

NOTES ON THE SEPTEMBER 3, 1985 CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING TO DISPERSE FUNDS FROM THE FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

Suggestions for Guidelines from Attorney General's Office

1. Long term implications of application. Can the program be adapted to other jurisdictions.
2. The program shouldn't require indefinite federal funds.
3. The program should have the ability to be measured. After the program is in operation for one year, is there a way to assess the progress of the program.
4. Long term strategy - how does the program fit into the strategies on the local and state level of the criminal justice system.
5. How much of the budget goes into administrative costs and how much actually goes to program functions.
6. How well the means have justified the program. How are they looking to present the program.

Points to Remember:

Geographic and population equity are important, but not at the expense of a quality program.

The Attorney General's office has a heavy emphasis on long term crime prevention programs.

Committee Members' Adopted Guidelines

1. Programs funded should address violent or serious crime.
2. Service delivery programs will take precedence over studies.
3. Program should be able to accomplish something within one year . rather than be dependent on continuing federal support.
4. Geographic equity and the distribution of serious and violent crimes will have some importance, but the quality of a program is more important.
5. Percentage of administrative costs in the budget should be kept to a minimum.
6. The program should be such that one can measure project performance at the end of the grant year.

PLANNING/ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS FOR FY 1986 FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUNDS

ACTIVITIES

WEEK

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

1. Announcement of '86 funds to Regional Councils of Government (COG's) and state criminal justice agencies.
Includes: (a) Federal regulations
(b) Local/state allocation ratio (Local-59.2%; State-40.8%)
(c) Application requirements
(d) Attorney General's Citizen Advisory Committee's criteria

X
(1)

2. Local and state criminal justice agencies prepare applications and gain approval/matching funds from city/county officials for proposed projects.

X---6 weeks---X
(2-7)

3. Local applications submitted to COG's for their review and priority setting.

X-4 wks.-X
(8-11)

4. COG's submit all applications to the state Department of Justice (DOJ) for program and fiscal review.

X
(12)

5. Local agencies and state agencies submit application notification to local and state A-95 clearinghouse process. (The Bureau of Justice allows up to 60 days.)

X--5 weeks--X
(12-16)

6. DOJ staff reviews applications for program and fiscal requirements.

X--X
(12-13)

7. DOJ sends applications to Citizen Advisory Committee members for their review.

X
(14)

8. Advisory Committee meetings with DOJ staff for review, discussion, and selection of projects for inclusion in state application.

X---X
(15-16)

9. State of Oregon application submitted to Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for review and approval. (BJA approves/disapproves applications within 60 days of official receipt.)

X-----8 weeks-----X
(17-24)

10. DOJ submits state application to the legislature/Emergency Board for their approval. (Approval must be received before state can disburse any funds.)

X-----8 weeks-----X

11. Federal Bureau of Justice Assistance awards grant and partial funds to Department of Justice for disbursement.

Time dependent on completion/approval of steps 9 and 10)

12. DOJ makes awards on approved grants.

Time dependent on completion/approval of steps 9 and 10)